20038
Near + Middle East
1949-1951

UNCLASSIFIED

COPY 5 OF 9 COPIES

160

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Uwolff
June 13, 1950 6/1/22
RDP or XDS EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. BEACON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

DECLASSIFICATION DATE 6/28/74
PER VELICIES OFFICE NEA
730115

To: S - The Secretary

Through: S/S

From: S/P - Mr. Nitze

Subject: Comments on Mr. McGhee's Memorandum of June 7, 1950 on Economic Aid to South Asia and the Near East

S/P generally supports the point of view put forward in Mr. McGhee's memorandum. It believes, however, that:

(1) A program should be developed for the Near East, South Asia, and Southeast Asia as a whole. The problems are similar enough, both in fact and in the public view, that it would be a mistake to make the program conform to the geographical division of responsibilities within State.

(2) The memorandum under reference does not adequately present the need for this program, i.e., the need is stronger than the memorandum indicates.

(3) The development of the program should be more closely tied in with the work of Gordon Gray than the memorandum appears to provide.

(4) The problem of laying a foundation in public opinion for the program should be deferred until the character of the program is more definitely established.

(5) The conception of the program, as developed in the memorandum, is not adequate to justify accepting the memorandum as the basis for planning.

S/P therefore recommends that:

(1) A working group be established to study what program of assistance to the Near East, South Asia, and Southeast Asia is needed to support the achievement of

U.S.

UNCLASSIFIED

U.S. objectives in this area. The group should consist of representatives from NEA, FE, E, S/P and R under a chairman selected by NEA and FE.

(2) The working group should immediately develop an outline of the information needed to elaborate the program and take steps to obtain this information, using the Diplomatic Missions and such other sources as may be available.

(3) The working group should establish a relationship with Mr. Gray which will ensure that the Department's work will fit into the work being done by Mr. Gray.

(4) The working group should develop a program designed to supplement and reinforce the efforts of the countries themselves, either independently or under the Commonwealth program.

(5) The working group include in its report recommendations on the development of public support for the program, and that for this purpose P should designate an officer to work with the group.

S/P:RWTufts:mw